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Bangalore Mirror

Happy Gandhi Jayanthi

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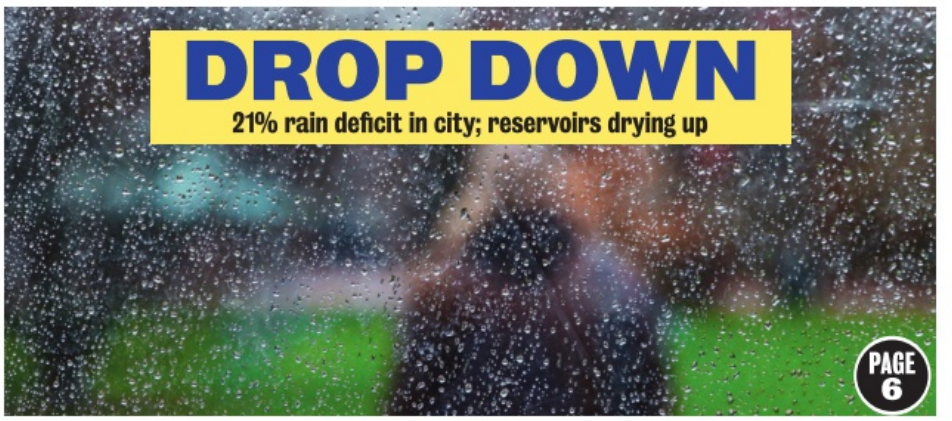
TEMP Max 28 | Min 19 | Humidity 69% Partly cloudy Sensex 62,828 | Nifty 19,638 | Gold 57,096 | Silver 69,870 | Dollar 83.18 | Euro 88.06 | GBP 101.45

BOTCHED UP

Dirty picture of when lake rejuvenation effort goes awry

PAGE 4



DROP DOWN

21% rain deficit in city; reservoirs drying up

PAGE 6

Replica of Bhagavad Gita broken, withered, old garlands hanging from neck, and iron rods protruding from midriff of Bapu's statue – all is forgotten till eve of Gandhi Jayanthi

IDOL WORSHIP

Hasty repair of statue does not mask complete neglect of years

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It is that time of the year, when Mahatma Gandhi statues across the city start getting spruced up. But, till the eve of Gandhi Jayanthi, this was the shocking state of one such statue that BM say in Wilson Garden. Even the Mahatma would have turned in his grave at the pathetic condition and utter negligence of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and perfunctory attitude of elected representatives.

One or two withered and dusty garlands hung from the neck of the statue. No one is sure when the statue was garlanded. The shocking sight was a broken concrete replica of Bhagavad Gita that is lying in front of the statue put up on a concrete pedestal. And the final nail in coffin or shall we say the statue, were the rusted steel rods protruding from the statue.

But, by mid-day, officials seem to have been jolted out of their apathy and in a sudden spurt of activity, were seen fixing all that was wrong with the statue. It was not only being cleaned up, but repair work also was being done.

The Mahatma Gandhi statue was installed by Wilson Garden

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

KAUSHIK JN

BEFORE

ON EVE OF JAYANTHI

> **"It is the responsibility of the BBMP to ensure proper maintenance of statues installed at various locations across the city as it is the BBMP that gives permission to social organisations to install statues**
>
> – Arun Prasad, a resident of Wilson Garden

Lose control

Pollution control board is not as eager to halt death of lakes as it is to pinpoint their deterioration, activists say

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite routinely publishing reports about Bengaluru lakes, the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board takes no action, say lake activists. They say that KSPCB has reduced its functionalities to identifying pollution rather than controlling it.

There are 106 lakes within KSPCB's purview in Bengaluru and in July 2023, 68 lakes were classified as D category while 40 were classified as E category. In June 2023, again 68 lakes were classified as D category while 40 lakes were classified as E category. In May 2023, 80 lakes were classified as D category while 29 were classified as E category. The problem, lake activists say, lies in KSPCB not taking adequate action in addressing the pollution inside lakes. According to news reports, KSPCB has not fined a single industry since 2017 for polluting lakes.

Since July onwards, KSPCB has been publishing lake quality on 25 different parameters.

New name

Lake activists say that KSPCB has turned into the Karnataka Pollution Identification Board. "The amount of post-indication action to control pollution has been nil.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

VK STREET SAMBHRAMA

Malleswaram resounds with festival spirit

Community togetherness brings streets alive with joyful celebrations of tradition, art

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PICTURES BY:KS SRIDHAR

In a spirited display of community spirit, Malleswaram residents thronged the streets to partake in the festivities of VK Street Sambhrama. This unique programme, making its debut in Malleswaram, was a joint endeavour by Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror. The program featured diverse activities, with women showcasing their artistic prowess through rangoli and children unleashing their creativity on paper. The streets reverberated with the joyful laughter of kids engaging in enjoyable games such as lemon and spoon and skipping, where the challenge was not merely to play but to master the art of balancing the spoon.

Pottery enthusiasts seized the opportunity to mould clay during the festival. The festival quickly turned into a shopping haven with numerous vendors offering a diverse range of goods. Residents from every corner of Malleswaram, spanning all age groups, enthusiastically participated, turning the occasion into an authentic hometown celebration. For many, it was a nostalgic journey, reminiscent of childhood spent playing traditional games like 'goli' and 'buguri' on the vibrant streets of Malleswaram. A resident shared, "My childhood memories are always attached to the streets of Malleswaram. Thanks to VK Street Sambhrama, my childhood was relived".

Aishwarya Menon and Bhavna Udaykumar's Zumba dance performance stole the show, leaving the audience ecstatic amidst the pulsating beats. Chaitra BG demonstrated various yoga poses, with Kannada actress Dhanya Ramkumar and actor Vicky Varun participating in VK Habba. Children engaged in a spirited musical chair competition, cheered on by parents, creating an atmosphere of joy and excitement. Lagori Street, a traditional Indian game with no time limit, added a nostalgic touch to the festival, evoking memories of childhood games. Children displayed their artistic talents in an art competition, and a wall painting competition added vibrant murals to the festivities. The fancy dress competition featured imaginative costumes, with young participants embodying characters like Rani Lakshmi Bai, Saalumarada Thimmakka and Swami Vivekananda.

Prakash Singh travelled from Vijayanagar to take part in the event. He expressed his wish for such programs to be organised every Sunday, stating, "We stayed until the end of this street festival, danced, and enjoyed." Deepa, a resident, shared her enjoyment of various activities at the 'Street Festival', including yoga and dance. Playing these games brought back childhood memories, and she noted that people of all ages celebrated. Sangram, another participant, revealed, "I am here in a PG. I asked my PG friends to come too. We all danced together and enjoyed ourselves. Events like this should happen more often." Padma, expressing the stress-relieving impact of the street festival.

> **"My childhood memories are always attached to the streets of Malleswaram. Thanks to VK Street Sambhrama for rekindling memories**
>
> – a resident

(1) Paintings done by visitors to elevate festival spirit; (2) Aishwarya Menon and Bhavna Udaykumar's energetic Zumba dance performance; (3) Women dancing to the rhythmic beats; (4) Kids take part in fancy dress competition featuring imaginative costumes with young participants embodying characters like Rani Lakshmi Bai and Swami Vivekananda. (5) Traditional art form displayed during the festivities; (6) Larger than-life characters enthral visitors, leaving a lasting impression; (7) A heated game of carrom reminding adults of their childhood; (8) Children dancing to the beat, filling the air with infectious energy and joy; (9) Enthusiastic festival goers participating in Chaitra BG's yoga demonstration

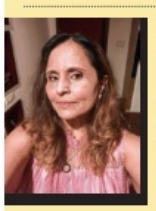
Manipal Hospitals launches SOS QR codes and CPR training to revolutionise emergency medical response

"The SOS QR code and Mandatory CPR training are two excellent initiatives by Manipal Hospitals. CPR training can be a game changer in how people react to cardiac emergencies. With CPR training they will be able to act fast and save lives. I pledge to learn CPR very shortly and also encourage the members from Bangalore Apartment Federation to learn CPR. We will also display the QR codes in the apartment complexes."
– **Mr. Arun Kumar,** Cofounder Bangalore Apartment Federation

"Kudos to Manipal Hospitals for rolling out two amazing initiatives. The SOS QR code is going to revolutionize the response to emergency services across the Bengaluru city and I wish this grows beyond Bengaluru and all over the country. I pledge to learn CPR in the next fifteen days and also encourage my people at Blume Global to learn CPR and also spread awareness about the SOS QR code."
– **Mr. Sudhir Unnikrishnan,** SVP & MD, India, Blume Global

"The SOS QR code initiative by Manipal Hospitals is definitely going to benefit many people and help save more lives. I will encourage more and more traffic police to undergo CPR training. I will also encourage my team to use the SOS QR code and spread awareness about it as it can come in very handy during emergency situations"
– **Mr. Srinivas Shenoy,** Dy, Chief Traffic Warden, Bengaluru

"Manipal Hospitals have rolled out two brilliant initiatives. I will ensure our drivers are educated about the SOS and also undergo CPR training. We will also urge the drivers to educate their passengers about the SOS QR code so that more and more people can be benefitted by the initiative."
– **Mr. Tanveer Pasha,** President Ola Uber Drivers' and Owners' Association, Karnataka State Auto and Taxi Federation



"The SOS QR code and mandatory CPR training are two brilliant life-saving initiatives. I will educate the people in my apartment complex about the SOS QR code and encourage them to save the QR code in their phones. I will also arrange for a CPR training for the residents in collaboration with Manipal Hospitals."
– **Ms. Hina Anand,** President, Prestige White Meadows

"We will arrange for a CPR training session for our residents in collaboration with Manipal Hospitals. SOS QR code initiative will be very helpful to save lives. We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone in their life. Being humble to one is indeed the best feeling in the world to serve our remarkable life. Save Life. "
– **Mr. Suri, Mr. Bharat, Ms. Noor, Ms. Arti Kulkarni,** Emergency Association Members, Prestige Jindal City

"Great initiatives by Manipal Hospitals. We look forward to introducing CPR training to the students and teachers in our school. The SOS QR code will also help saving many lives. We will display the QR code in the school premises and educate children on how to use it in case of emergencies."
– **Ms. B A Daisy Kaspa Rani,** Head Mistress, St Aloysius Middle School

"As a proud Kannadiga and a Bangalorean, Manipal Hospital holds a special place in our hearts. Initiatives like this bring us even closer to this homegrown healthcare group. Our plan is to ensure easy access to the Manipal Hospital QR code within our Pria Ashraya facility, prominently displaying it and incorporating it onto our support staff's ID badges. This way, we can quickly connect with the Manipal team when needed.
– **Mr. Praveen S N,** Founder & Director, Priaashraya Assisted Living Home, Yelahanka, Bangalore

Manipal Hospitals has unveiled a groundbreaking initiative on this World Heart Day – SOS QR codes. This innovative technology allows accident victims to swiftly access ambulance services within the critical "Golden Hour" by simply scanning the QR code, enabling precise patient location detection. On this year's World Heart Day, Manipal Hospital, Bengaluru introduced an advanced SOS QR code system alongside a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) education program, aimed at saving lives during medical emergencies. The primary objective behind this launch is to ensure that every critical patient receives timely assistance within the crucial "Golden Hour." Patients or their caregivers can effortlessly scan these QR codes using Android and iOS devices. iOS users can directly access the code through their device's camera, while Android users can use the Google Lens App for this purpose. The strategically placed QR codes near institution gates, corporate offices, school buses, and construction helmets enable easy access to medical assistance, allowing individuals to save the QR code for future use.

Appreciation for Manipal

During the event, G. Parameshwara expressed his appreciation for Manipal Hospitals' initiative, describing it as a remarkable step towards ensuring the well-being of citizens. Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao commended Manipal Hospital, Bangalore, for its significant contribution to public health and safety through the launch of the SOS QR Code and CPR education program.

World-class healthcare

Dr. Sudarshan Ballal, Chairman of Manipal Hospitals, emphasized the hospital's mission to deliver world-class healthcare services. He expressed his belief that the introduction of the SOS QR code and CPR education initiative aligns with their commitment to transforming Bengaluru into a Heart Smart City and making a significant difference in the lives of patients.

"The SOS QR code initiative will help us with hassle-free connecting to the ambulance directly and get medical help at the earliest. Mandatory CPR training is also a life-saving initiative. We look forward to arranging CPR training for all our staff in collaboration with Manipal Hospital and also display the SOS QR code at our premises. "
– **Ms. Tina Chowdhury Negi,** Managing Trustee for BizAura Learning Trust

"Thank You Manipal Hospitals for these wonderful life-saving initiatives. From our cycling club we will help spread these initiatives far and wide. Shortly, in collaboration with Manipal we will arrange for CPR training for our members and also encourage everyone to save the QR code in their phones for emergency situations."
– **Mr. Rajaneesh,** Head – Bengaluru Cycling Club

"Very shortly we are arranging for CPR training for all the staff at our mall in collaboration with Manipal Hospitals. In the days when sudden cardiac arrests are becoming extremely common, CPR training can help save many lives. We will also display the SOS QR code in our malls, so that people can use it in case of any emergencies."
– **Mr. Keshavan,** Marketing and Business Development, Nexus Mall Shantiniketan and Khushi Advertising

Done deed: What could go wrong after restoration?

Pretty much everything has gone wrong with company's lake revival, if residents of RK Township are to be believed

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Locals allege that the flooding issue began after Yarandahalli Lake was recently rejuvenated by a private firm under its CSR initiative. They fear that the lake bund will soon collapse as the soil is eroding very fast

Since it was restored by a private firm under the corporate social responsibility initiative last year, Yarandahalli Lake in South Bengaluru has been in the limelight for all the wrong reasons. The water body, situated a few hundred metres from RK Township, a residential locality, has flooded the township's street on multiple occasions. Yet again, a light spell of rain over the weekend has flooded the roads with sewage and harmful industrial effluents. However, the residents are puzzled this time around as the lake is practically dry. Residents say they are living their worst nightmare, all thanks to unscientific and haphazard lake rejuvenation work by the firm.

"While our streets were left inundated after a light spell of rain on Saturday, the lake hardly had any water in it. Many residents were puzzled. It was dirty water with a pungent smell that flooded our roads. Residents are concerned about health hazards and also fear contamination of drinking water," said a resident of the township. Locals allege that the flooding issue began after Yarandahalli Lake was recently rejuvenated by a private firm under its CSR initiative. The lake has its catchment in Jigani industrial area and it used to receive industrial effluents up until the rejuvenation work began in August 2022.

They fear that the lake bund will soon collapse as the soil is eroding very fast. "The bunds and lake boundaries were made using the silt from the lake, which was unfortunately very loose soil so it eroded back into the lake bed and into the diversion channel made inside the lake. During rain spells, this silt gets washed up to the stormwater drains and clogs the channels, not letting water pass.

Thus, even a light spell of rain overflows to the streets. The question here to be asked is were any geotechnical tests and studies done before using the silt for bund building?" lashed out a resident of RK Township. Residents say the water to this lake comes from the Jigani industrial area as claimed by the agency responsible for rejuvenation. This water, after the rejuvenation work completed in November 2022, is diverted to the Kachanayakanahalli Lake through diversion channels.

> **"Dirty water with a pungent smell flooded our roads after the rain on Saturday. Residents are concerned about health hazards** – a resident

"We doubt if the catchment area delineation report of Yarandahalli Lake was taken into consideration before starting the rejuvenation work. It appears that no rainfall-runoff calculations were made with drain and lake carrying capacity too before starting this project last year," alleged another resident.

"During the first meeting with the RK township residents, the private firm responsible for carrying out rejuvenation under its CSR initiative along with the independent lake expert, we were told about stagewise filtration of garbage, silt, and chemicals before water enters the lake. But finally, when lake rejuvenation was done, nothing that was promised was delivered. This has resulted in excessive garbage collection in the lake, which during rains again gets flushed off to our township SWDs and clogs it, not allowing the diverted catchment water and rainwater to flow freely from the layout," said another resident.

Unscientific lake restoration, causing diversion of huge quantities of water, soil erosion along lake bunds, and clogged diversion channels are reasons behind the layout streets flooding even after short spells of rain, say the residents.

270 disabled persons to be back on their feet

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Physically challenged persons aged 10 to 70 years were provided with artificial limbs. They were given training to walk back on their feet

In a commendable effort towards empowering the physically challenged, Rajasthan-based Narayan Seva Samstha provided 270 individuals with modular artificial limbs free of cost. The impactful initiative, spanning four decades, was held at the Maratha Hostel Grounds on Bull Temple Road this Sunday.

Speaking on the occasion, Narayan Seva Samstha Bangalore Unit President Vinod Jain said his organisation has decided to increase its activities in Bangalore in the coming days. "We intend to hold a Mass marriage of Divyangs in February in the city. This time, we intend to give 50 couples. The number may go up to 100 also," Vinod Jain added. Narayan Seva Samstha has already held sports events of Divyang, such as cricket and swimming. In foreign countries, Divyang fashion shows are held. "Divyangs of all religions and castes are here in this camp," he explained.

According to Vinod, the modular artificial limbs distributed on Sunday are made of German technology. "These modular artificial limbs are lightweight and superior in quality. Narayan Seva Samstha has, till today, distributed artificial limbs to more than 39,000 physically challenged people, free of cost. We are providing skill training, enabling them to build their lives," he said.

Physically challenged persons aged 10 to 70 were in the camp and provided with artificial limbs. They were given training to walk with plastic limbs. Mirrors were installed to enable them to practice and improve walking. Experts offered guidance and training. Physically challenged persons felt happy as if they had taken rebirth after getting modular artificial limbs.

whatsapp MIRROR 9591233247

Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Electrical hazard

Richmond Town

Electricity wires have been left unattended near St. Mary's Battery Centre, No. 23, Kumara Park West, Serpentine Road. This poses a significant danger to the public as it is situated by the roadside.

Trash trouble

Ramamurthy Nagar

There is a garbage accumulation problem at the bus stop on Church Road, opposite ICICI Bank, Ramamurthy Nagar. Urging BBMP to take action.

Bumpy road

Byrapura

The pothole-ridden "pool" road near Byrapura demands urgent attention.

Skateboarder alleges assault by auto driver

Citizens point to importance of alternate modes of non-motorised transport, urge authorities to spread awareness

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A man has alleged that he was assaulted by an auto driver in an inebriated state for using a skateboard to travel.

The 24-year-old restaurant worker, who hails from Assam, was allegedly assaulted by the driver for using a skateboard on Friday afternoon. The restaurant worker, a resident of Kaikondrahalli, said that he has skateboarded for the past year on the stretch but never faced any assault.

He told BM that around 1-2 pm, he was going to skateboard in a park.

"When I was on Junnasandra Road, an auto driver, possibly in an inebriated state, started yelling at me. He tried to throw the skateboard into the nearby drain, but the skateboard could not fit inside. I took it out, and he again snatched it from my hand and kept it inside his auto. He also snatched my phone and slapped me. He threatened to break my phone," he explained.

The victim added that a few other auto drivers also came and started questioning him and told him it was not allowed to use a skateboard there. When the victim started the live video, they started threatening him to delete the video. One of the auto drivers returned the skateboard to him at a later stage.

Responding to the attack, a member of Bengaluru Skaters, Divya Kerde, said, "We just go about our business using skateboards as an urban transport mode, and many times people shout at us. But this is the first time that someone has been assaulted. People are afraid of things they don't understand, and we have been trying to raise awareness in the past few years. We hope that the government takes note of the incident and builds better infrastructure for green mobility. This would help other road users understand that we are sticking to cycle lanes."

Man alleges he was threatened, slapped and his skateboard was thrown into drain

He added that the government needs to create awareness about the subject. "If the government creates even a social media post stating the different permitted modes of transport, it would be helpful. If people have an issue, they should approach the officials and not take the law into their own hands. Police officials must take stern action against the culprit on priority," he said.

When BM reached out to Bellandur Police Station, they assured us that they would look into the issue and action would be taken against the culprit.

Actor Nagabhushana detained after his car rams couple

Kannada actor Nagabhushana was detained after his vehicle struck a 58-year-old man and a 48-year-old woman, killing the woman and severely injuring the man. The accident happened on Vasanth Nagar Main Road around 9:45 pm on Saturday when Prema and Krishna were strolling alongside each other on the street. Nagabhushana's vehicle struck an electric pole before colliding with the couple.

Prema died and Krishna is undergoing treatment at Fortis Hospital in Bannerghatta after suffering major injuries. He is in a critical condition right now. But according to reports, Nagabhushana himself drove the couple to the hospital. Partha, the victim's son, filed a report with the police.

"I work at a corporation, and my parents live with me. I received a call from someone who was staying in my flat on September 30 at around 10 pm while I was on Kanakapura Road to inform me that my parents had an accident. They said that a car struck both of them," he said.

According to the son, the woman died en route to the hospital.

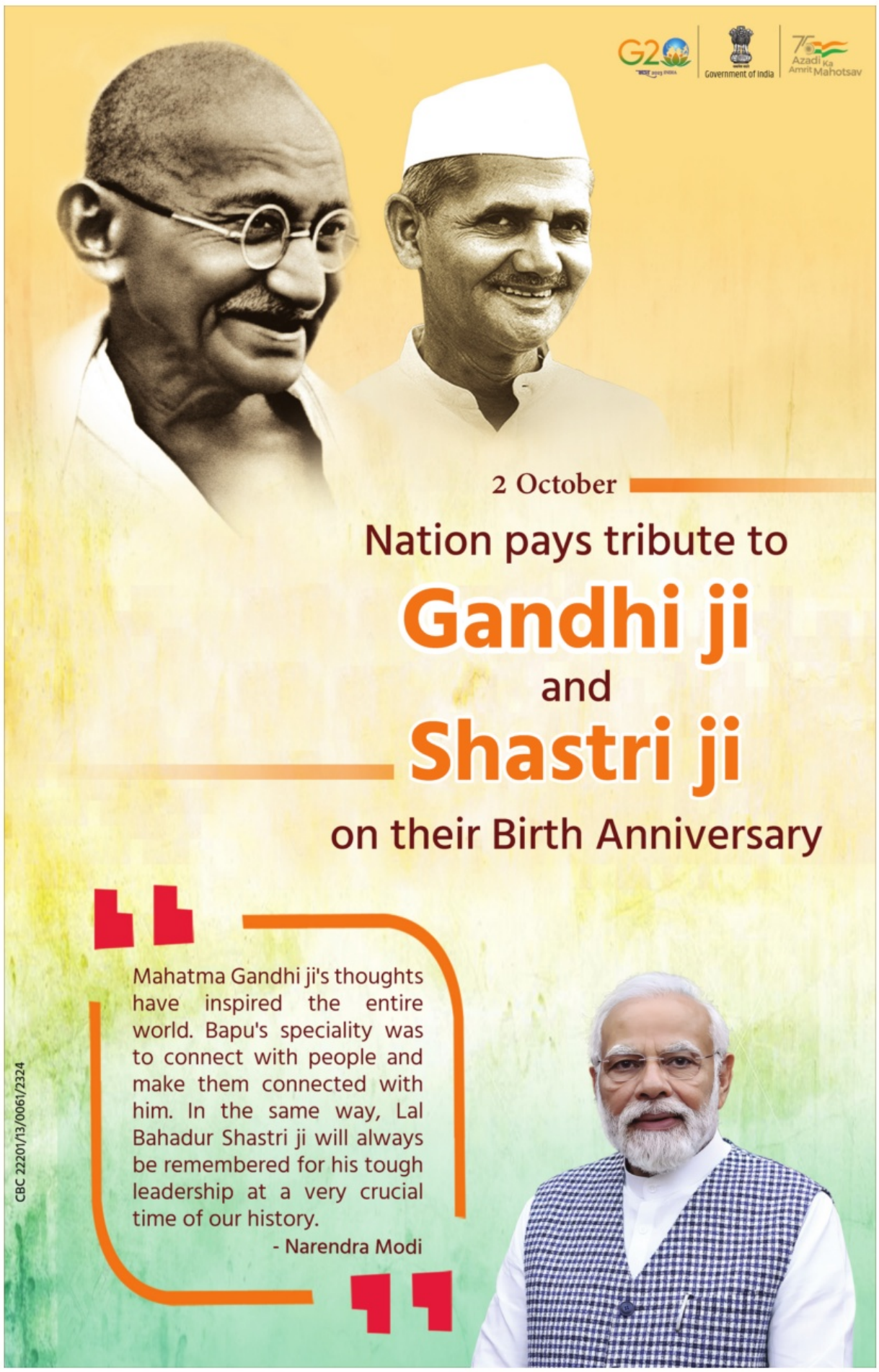
Sexual predator detained

A man who preyed upon and sexually attacked women in remote areas of Bengaluru has been detained, the police said on Sunday.

The incidents came to light when one of the victims complained about the accused, and the police then inspected the CCTV footage and detained him based on the suspect's description.

Ayyappa, a Vyalikaval resident and bike mechanic, has been identified as the person who was arrested.

Ayyappa admitted to police during questioning that he used to get his bike from the garage where he used to work and began pursuing a woman every day along a lonely stretch of road. —BMB


G20
Government of India
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
2 October
Nation pays tribute to
Gandhi ji
and
Shastri ji
on their Birth Anniversary
Mahatma Gandhi ji's thoughts have inspired the entire world. Bapu's speciality was to connect with people and make them connected with him. In the same way, Lal Bahadur Shastri ji will always be remembered for his tough leadership at a very crucial time of our history.
- Narendra Modi
CBC 22201/13/0061/2324

21% rain deficit in Bengaluru

Statewide reservoirs are left with 61% of their capacity during the monsoon season

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The monsoon is about to bid adieu in Karnataka, leaving behind a trail of more tears than cheers. The water situation across the state is nothing short of grim, as experts raise eyebrows. As we wave goodbye to the rainy season, the big question looming is how will we manage the water scarcity until the next monsoon in June 2024.

A Prasad, a scientist from India Meteorological Department (IMD) said, "The South West Monsoon is bidding its farewell, and yet we find ourselves with an 18% deficit. Coastal areas are grappling with a 13% shortfall, north interior at 11%, south interior at a staggering 28%, Bengaluru urban at 15%, Bengaluru rural at 5%, and Bengaluru city facing a whopping 21% deficit. Worse, the Cauvery catchment area has a staggering 33% deficit. While other areas maintain a semblance of normalcy, Bengaluru City, south interior Karnataka, and the Cauvery catchment area find themselves in a precarious water deficit."

The rain deficit is seen in the severe water shortage in the reservoirs, which need to save water till the next monsoon year.

Take for instance, the Krishna Raja Sagara (KRS), currently holding 21.28 TMC of water as of October 1, 2023. Contrast that with the previous year, where it held a much healthier 47.73% (with a gross capacity of 49.45 TMC). Linganamakki, one of our largest hydel reservoirs, is similarly struggling with just 69.09 TMC against its previous 140.42 TMC (with a gross capacity of 151.75 TMC).

Even in the Cauvery belt, Harangi boasts 82% water storage but falls short compared to last year. Hemavathi, too, is grappling with a significant reduction, standing at 18.76 TMC compared to the previous year's 36.70 TMC. The situation in the Krishna basin isn't any rosier; Almatti is currently at 108.66 TMC compared to 123.08 TMC last year. Statewide, our reservoirs are only at 61% of their capacity during the monsoon season, with a total gross storage capacity of 895.62 TMC across 14 reservoirs, but only 545.49 TMC in storage compared to the previous 828.49 TMC.

Meanwhile, the Cauvery crisis has made its way to Delhi, with a review petition filed before the Cauvery Water Management Board regarding the water release order. The board had directed Karnataka to release 3,000 cusecs of water daily until October 15. In response to a review petition, the state government expressed its inability to comply and sought permission to construct a balancing reservoir across the Cauvery River at Mekedatu near Kanakapura in Ramanagara Taluk.

Meanwhile, Prasad added that there could be a few spells of rainfall in the City for the next few days. "Currently, a depression has formed over east-central Arabian Sea, extending from Honnavar westerly to a distance of 250. It's expected to move northeast, bringing heavy rainfall to coastal areas. Hence, Bengaluru may witness light to moderate rainfall with occasional thunderstorms for the next three days", he added.

Police raid Udupi Bar for unauthorised party

Karnataka Police conducted a raid at a bar in Udupi district after students posted pictures and videos of an unauthorised party, officials on Sunday said.

The incident occurred within the jurisdiction of Manipal police station, where students were found smoking hookah, consuming liquor, and partying without permission at the S. Stacy bar in Vidyanagar near Manipal.

The students had posted pictures of the late-night party on their Instagram handles and alerted the police. During their routine weekend patrolling, the raid was conducted in the bar. It was conducted by a team led by the Manipal Circle Inspector and the students were detained. The case has been slapped on the owner of the bar for permitting a DJ party.

The police are on high alert as the incidents of attacks on pubs and bars attended by students are targeted by Hindu activists in the coastal region. The region is also considered communally sensitive. **IANS**

Bangalore Rose Onion export duty waived

The central government has announced an exemption for the export of 'Bangalore rose onion' from the recently imposed export duty. "Goods meant for export shall be allowed to be exported subject to the exporter furnishing a certificate from the Horticulture Commissioner, Government of Karnataka, certifying the item and quantity of 'Bangalore Rose Onion' to be exported," the official notification from the Ministry of Finance said.

Bangalore rose onion is a variety of onion grown in and around Bengaluru in Karnataka. In August, the government imposed a 40 per cent duty on the export of onions to check price rise and improve supplies in the domestic market till December 31, 2023. The central government had earlier decided it would maintain 3 lakh tonne of onions in the 2023-24 season as buffer stock. In 2022-23, the government maintained 2.51 lakh tonne onion as buffer stock. **ANI**

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Unconventional display

In a recent religious event, Speaker UT Khader surprised attendees by showcasing his unique talents at a torchlight parade. The crowd warmly welcomed the speaker, and the organisers had arranged a spectacular torchlight procession in his honour. To everyone's amazement, Khader not only enjoyed the event but also exhibited his skills by playfully manipulating a fire-lit stick, leaving a lasting impression on those in attendance.

Debate over bars

The contentious issue of opening bars in villages has taken a twist. According to Excise Minister RB Timmapur, the rampant sale of illicit liquor in villages has prompted discussions about introducing bars in these areas. However, this proposal is currently in the deliberation phase. Responding to queries about opposition parties' criticisms, Timmapur stressed that the population growth has created a demand for more bars, reducing the need for people to travel long distances and pay higher prices for their beverages.

Unusual requests

Ministers often field various requests from the public, but some are more unconventional than others. Recently, Minority Welfare Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan found himself in an unusual situation. As he received numerous request letters from people patiently waiting in line, one individual surprised him by extending a hand and asking for money to cover his day's drinking expenses. Khan, momentarily taken aback, eventually pulled out a currency note from his pocket and handed it to the man with a friendly smile.

Unusual encounter

Home Minister G Parameshwar, known for his amicable interactions with journalists, recently displayed an unexpected side when

he took a playful jab at reporters. When journalists approached him for insights on the latest developments, Parameshwar humorously remarked, "You can't just stop me and start asking questions wherever you please. Take your time and ask your questions. Nevertheless, since you've already halted me, feel free to proceed, and I'll do my best to answer your queries promptly, as I have a busy schedule."

Water supply crisis

IIIT-Dharwad, a prestigious institution in the state, is currently grappling with a pressing issue: the lack of a reliable water supply. Concerned students sent out an SOS to Dharwad West MLA Arvind Bellad, seeking assistance in ensuring consistent access to water. When questioned about his efforts to address the problem, MLA Bellad expressed his helplessness saying he was shocked to find that the responsible officials were unresponsive to his calls.

He now plans to escalate the matter to the Deputy Commissioner in an attempt to hold the officials accountable.

Speculation

Ever since Tejaswini Anantkumar missed the opportunity to contest the MP ticket from Bengaluru South in the previous election, rumours have been swirling about her potential entry into active politics. During a recent memorial meeting, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar offered a suggestion to Tejaswini, suggesting that individuals with her qualities should consider taking a leap into electoral politics. **–Sridhar Vivan**

Dust to decorum: Ganganagar to get glitzy revival

Ganganagar Market Road's first makeover in four decades to eliminate flooding woes

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Ganganagar is on the verge of a remarkable transformation as its 3rd Main Road, popularly known as Market Road, is set to get a substantial upgrade on par with Commercial Street in the Central Business District (CBD) area. This project, spanning 678 metres will cost an estimated Rs 8 crore. The upgrade work began in January and is likely to be completed by the end of October. The 5.5-m to 7-m width road has seven cross culverts with gratings and 10 FRP gratings in the middle at locations to drain water whenever it rains heavily. It will have 64 decorative streetlights and granite-stone footpaths.

"It is my dream project. The upgrade was pending for long. The road will be only one with such amenities in a residential area in the city. I am happy with the progress of the work," said Urban Development Minister Byrathi Suresh, who represents Hebbal constituency.

According to residents and business people, the Market Road is being upgraded for the first time in 40 years. "This road was known for water logging in monsoon. We are very happy with the development. They made a provision for drainage on both sides so there won't be any water logging," said Dawood Sait, a businessman.

> **"Earlier, the road was known for waterlogging and potholes. Now, the road has been concretised. There will be no potholes too in the near future**

Poonaram of Vinayaka Electricals told BM he is delighted with the work. "Earlier, the road was asphalted, and now it is concretised. The upgraded road has the provision to drain accumulated water," said Poonaram. Expressing a similar opinion, Ajay P, a businessman, said the road work is in progress. "Earlier, the road was known for waterlogging and potholes. Now, the road is concretised. There will be no potholes on the road in the near future. I am happy with the development of the road," said Ajay.

The residents said the contractor engaged workers to construct drains on both sides of the road, doubling as footpaths. "With the contractor making provision for drains-cum-footpaths on both sides, the width of the road is reduced a little bit. I want the traffic police to regulate parking on the road to avoid traffic jams," said a resident pleading anonymity.

According to the contractor, Anand Pramod, shifting utility lines was a big challenge before concretising the road. "I agreed to take up the work but was a little hesitant in the beginning as many utility lines needed to be integrated or shifted. We constructed a drain beneath the road, which carries rainwater to the nearest stormwater drain. We ensured the shifting of utility lines such as water, electricity, and cables without disrupting existing utility services. We provided new water and sanitary connections before disconnecting the old ones," said Pramod. He said the development of footpaths and installing decorative street lights will be completed in a month.

Listen to ORRCA's suggestions on traffic congestion

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After reports of a severe jam went viral, the Outer Ring Road Companies Association (ORRCA) met Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Saturday to put forward an action plan for decongestion of the arterial road. The Deputy CM is expected to visit ORR on October 4 to conduct a larger review meeting.

Representatives from ORRCA, traffic police, and Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike met the Deputy CM and suggested immediate, near and long-term ideas. The team highlighted 36 junctions that are causing choke points in and around ORR. As an immediate measure, they insisted that BMRCL's current Phase 2A deadline of June 2025 be adhered to. Measures must be taken to ensure the construction is accident-free.

They stressed on widening service roads especially those next to construction sites. In addition, efforts must be made to identify and develop alternative routes to bypass construction zones.

To reduce congestion during office peak hours, they suggested that construction activities be scheduled for non-peak hours and necessary temporary traffic diversions must be planned. Establish effective coordination mechanisms with tech parks and corporate campuses located in the vicinity of the construction sites. The construction schedules, traffic diversions, and alternate route information should be shared with the management of tech parks. Transport management should be undertaken to reduce the number of private vehicles and build a dedicated lane for heavy construction.

In a bid to improve traffic management, advanced traffic monitoring systems and intelligent traffic signals for optimised traffic flow should be used. They also suggested that officials consider establishing a PPP arrangement for routine maintenance, repairs of civic amenities (sewage, drains, utility cables, power network) and periodic resurfacing of roads.

Steps must be taken to upgrade and expand pedestrian facilities, including sidewalks, footpaths, and pedestrian crossings. Introduce smart technologies for pedestrian safety; efforts must be made to enhance accessibility features for differently-abled individuals and improve the overall pedestrian experience.

ORRCA also suggested identifying revenue generation mechanisms, such as advertising, and value-added services.

In its larger plan for 90-180 days, they suggested conducting a detailed study and analysis of existing traffic patterns and congestion points on the identified 19 arterial roads. ORRCA also proposed to reactivate the arterial road project (approved in 2019) for implementation. 19 arterial roads identified must be approved on priority to decongest the traffic in ORR.

Vehicle entry in Cubbon Park: Protest today

The Cubbon Park Walkers' Association is planning to conduct a protest on October 2 to protest plans to permit the entry of vehicles inside Cubbon Park.

Calling for the protection of the heritage space of Cubbon Park, the walkers' association has called for banning the entry of vehicles on Saturdays and public holidays.

The President of Cubbon Park Walkers Association Umesh Kumar said, "The horticulture department is planning to allow vehicles inside Cubbon Park every Saturday and on holidays. We will be protesting against this. There are only two fresh green spaces in Bengaluru-Lalbagh and Cubbon Park. We will have to be answerable to future generations.

Out of 300 acres, it has been reduced to 196 acres and they keep taking away more spaces illegally."

According to the association, nearly 1,000 people will probably be part of the protest.

"Cubbon Park is the only place where skaters can train for urban skating. With that space gone, there will be no space left for urban skating and we will have to confine ourselves to commercial spaces or the normal dangerous roads. It will be disastrous for the entire community," said Divye Kerde, a member of Bengaluru Skaters.

Spread over 196 acres, Cubbon Park has been the largest green space available for Bengaluru residents.

However, the horticulture department has been imposing several restrictions on users of Cubbon Park. It's not permitted to eat food, photography/videography, lovers are not allowed to sit close, and users are not permitted to climb trees or play sports. In a recent ban, the collective reading club in Cubbon Park called Cubbon Reads was also banned. **BMB**

Probe reveals accused had written hundreds of threat letters

The probe into the case of life-threatening letters to progressive writers, and actors has revealed that accused Shivaji Rao Jadhav was a school dropout and studied only till eighth standard. During the interrogation, he confessed to writing 100 such letters regarding which police are grilling him.

The probe had also revealed that the accused was the co-convenor of the Hindu Jagaran Vedike and also wrote the letter threatening three Karnataka ministers, a religious seer and a bunch of progressive writers.

Shivaji Rao Jadhav, a resident of EWS Colony in Davanagere City, was arrested for sending threatening letters to more than 15 progressive Kannada authors and thinkers on Saturday. Jadhav was arrested in the district by sleuths of the City Central Crime Branch (CCB).

The police suspect that the accused is brainwashed and supported by a group of people, and are trying to unearth his connections in this regard.

The accused used to travel to different districts and posted life-threatening letters to give the police the slip. He had gone to Shivamogga, Chitradurga, Haveri and other districts just to post letters.

The accused had been writing the threat letters for the past two years, forcing the targeted authors to meet Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on multiple occasions and demand swift action.

In the letters, Jadhav threatened the victims, including K. Veerabhadrappa, B.L. Venu, Banjagere Jayaprakash, B.T. Lalita Naik, Vasundhara Bhupathi, for going against Hindutva, saying that they should count their last days.

The case was handed over to the Special Wing CCB and experts of the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) found that all letters were written by the same person but posted from different districts and taluks.

As a result of the letters, state Home Minister Dr. G. Parameshwara directed the police to provide suitable security to the authors.

While confessing to his crime, Jadhav claimed that he threatened the authors and thinkers due to their anti-Hindu stand.

The police produced him before the court which sent him to 10 days of custody for interrogation. The development was taken seriously after the murders of journalist Gauri Lankesh and activist-writer Prof. M.M. Kalburgi in Karnataka.

The accused had confessed to writing a life-threatening letter to Minister for Health Dinesh Gundu Rao, Minister for RDPR, IT and BT Priyank Kharge and Minister for PWD Satish Jarkiholi.The life-threatening letter was posted at the address of Nishkala Mantapa Ashram run by Nijagunananda Swamiji.

The letter also mentions the names of progressive thinkers S.G. Siddaramaiah, K. Marulasiddappa, Baraguru Ramachandrappa, Bhaskar Prasad, Prof. Bhagavan, Prof. Mahesh Chandra Guru, B.T. Lalita Nayak, Dwarakanath, Devanuru Mahadeva, B.L. Venu, actors and activists Prakash Raj and Chetan Ahimsa.

The letter was received by the Ashram in Bailahongala in Belagavi district on September 20. The life-threatening letter mentions that all who have been named, do have the courage to speak up about what is being done by communal Muslims. The letter also asked them will they would raise their voice against anti-national activities. **–IANS**

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JITENDER KUMAR VERMA, C/o Verma Bhawan residing at No. 398, 1st D Main road, Domlur Layout, Domlur, Bangalore-560071 have changed my name to JITENDER VERMA, vide affidavit dated 30.09.2023 sworn before notary Ramesh D Shah, Bangalore.

I Prabavathi Kuppala W/O, Sriramulu Kuppala Naidu R/o #t-03, Shristhi Enclave, #3, 1st Cross. B.channasandra Main Road, Lal Bahadur Nagar, Bangalore - 560043 have changed my name to Prabhavati Kuppala.

I, Rina Gond W/o Ajay Kumar R/o No. B-1014,10th floor, tower -B, Brigade Buena Vista Bommenahalli Village, Mandur post, Bengaluru - 560049 have changed my name to Rina Gaur for all purposes.

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'No one bothered to keep statue in good condition'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nagarika Samithi on January 23, 2014 and it was unveiled by Ramalinga Reddy, Minister for Transport of that time. RV Devaraj, MLA of Chickpet of that time, presided over the function. The then corporator of Wilson Garden ward D Chandrappa and Narendra Kumar Jain of Marble Centre International were chief guests. The circle, named after Devaraj Urs, was inaugurated by MP Jairaj, editor of Garibi Hatao, on the occasion of Active Youth Association's first year celebrations.

Citizens, social activists and Gandhians are upset about the apathy shown towards the statue since then.

"It is the responsibility of the BBMP to ensure proper maintenance of statues installed at various locations across the city. It is the BBMP that gives permission to social organisations to install statues. The organisation that installed the Mahatma Gandhi statue or the BBMP must have taken care of the statue and must start repair the broken statue without any delay," said Arun Prasad, a resident of Wilson Garden.

A resident, pleading anonymity, said that some people gather near the statue on Gandhi Jayanthi or Independence Day but no one is bothered to keep the statue in a good condition. And then the next October 2 is here, when the statue is suddenly remembered.

When informed, Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) spokesperson Ramesh Babu said that he would inform the local MLA and the BBMP authorities to keep the statue in a good condition henceforth.

Gandhi Bhavan secretary Indira Krishna has also planned to write a letter to the BBMP authorities and the local elected representative about the condition of the statue.

When informed, Chickpet MLA Uday Garudachar assured a visit to the spot. "I will revert after the spot visit," said Uday Garudachar. And we believe, the visit has worked as the statue will see yet another Jayanthi in a reasonably better-off condition.

What exactly is mandate of pollution control board?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

We see that lakes are deteriorating or remain in the same condition for a long time. It showcases that there is no action being taken. KSPCB is yet to start taking action to control pollution. They should take steps to improve the water quality of lakes and find the root cause of pollution and arrest it," said lake activist Ram Prasad.

Activists say that despite many fish kills being reported, rarely is any action taken. "KSPCB has been conducting tests and reports are sent to CPCB. The number of lakes being tested has increased over time but action is taken unless there is a fishkill. Even after fishkill, a detailed test is conducted, but we are not clear about the action taken.

Fishkill is the last stage of the lake and there is no life in the waterbody. Due to the massive publicity of the mass Ulsoor Lake fish kills in 2016, the last detailed report available in the public domain is about Ulsoor Lake. Following the report, an inter-department action plan was made. After 2016, you won't find any such report available online. Even the fish kills reported monthly are not available in the public domain," said Raghavendra B Pachhapur, a lake activist.

According to the KSPCB website, the Board was constituted by the Government of Karnataka in 1974 in pursuance of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

HEALTH TIP: Simple dietary regimens should be followed instead of forcing yourself to go on a strict diet

Quitting smoking yields significant and long-lasting benefits and one can seek expert advice to help cessation

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ALL WORK AND NO PLAY

Swimming lessons stop kids from having fun in pool: Research

Researchers proved that errors in traditional swimming training might be solved via self-determination theory.

The findings were published in Frontiers in Sports and Active Living.

Swimming lessons are not only potentially life-saving; they also give a full-body workout that enhances cardiovascular and lung health. While most children in high-income countries learn to swim, few join a swimming club afterwards.

Lead author Carola Minkels, a doctoral student at the Department of Human Movement Sciences of the Free University Amsterdam, said, "Here we show that swimming lessons in the Netherlands poorly support the intrinsic motivation of children: their need for autonomy is thwarted, while their needs for competence, and relatedness are only weakly supported."

"Fortunately, we also show that teachers can be taught to better support these needs if they adopt a swim teaching program explicitly designed for this."

Minkels and colleagues observed how swimming is typically taught, and evaluated the lessons in the light of the 'self-determination theory' of human motivation and personality.

According to this theory, we enjoy activities best and persist in them when we are self-determined – that is, becoming and keeping motivated without prodding or supervision.

"Motivation is a prerequisite for all forms of learning, including motor learning. A more motivating teaching style is therefore more likely to improve the swimming capability of children," said Minkels.

Self-determination theory posits that autonomy, competence, and relatedness jointly shape self-determination.

Autonomy refers to our need to feel in control of our own choices, behaviours, and goals, without external control.

Competence means our need to feel effective in our behaviour, while relatedness is our need to feel connected and belong to a social group.

Two independent observers observed and recorded every instruction, demonstration, verbalization, and action by the teacher. At the end of the class, they gave each teacher a score on a seven-point Likert scale – developed and validated in a previous study on teaching styles – separately for how strongly she or he had thwarted or supported autonomy, competence, and relatedness.

The higher the score, the more a behaviour supported the need.

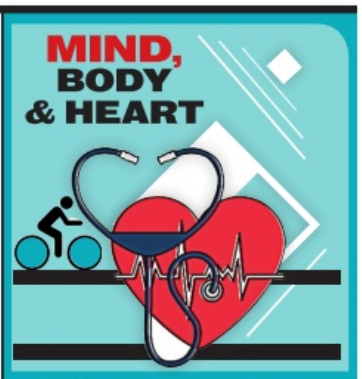
The median scores for autonomy, competence, and relatedness were 3.50, 4.33, and 5.5 points.

"Instructors scored significantly lower on the employment of autonomy in swimming lessons than on the employment of competence and relatedness," wrote the authors.

The authors concluded that there is scope to improve the teaching style of swimming teachers in the Netherlands, especially in terms of nurturing autonomy in children.

Importantly, teachers trained in the EasySwim program were found to have significantly better scores for autonomy, which means that nurturing the three basic needs can be taught.

"We recommend that swimming instructors employ a teaching style that supports autonomy, competence, and relatedness. We expect that such a teaching style will not only stimulate children to improve their swimming skills but also to enjoy it and to continue swimming once they have learned, for example by joining a club," said Minkels. **ANI**



All you need to know about...

Air pollution and stroke

Risk in 5 days
Short-term exposure to air pollution, defined as occurring within five days of the stroke, can significantly increase the risk of stroke, according to a new study.

Pollutants studied
In the study, researchers from University of Jordan in Amman looked at pollutants such as nitrogen dioxide, ozone, carbon monoxide and sulphur dioxide as well as different sizes of particulate matter, including PM1, which is air pollution that is less than 1 micron (ơm) in diameter, PM2.5 and PM10.

Increased risk
The team found higher concentrations of nitrogen dioxide were linked to a 28 per cent increased risk of stroke; higher ozone levels were linked to a 5 per cent increase; carbon monoxide had a 26 per cent increase; and sulphur dioxide had a 15 per cent increase.
Along with this higher concentration of PM1 was linked to a 9 per cent increased risk of stroke, with PM2.5 at 15 per cent and PM10 at 14 per cent.
Their findings, published in the journal Neurology, is based on a review of 110 studies that included more than 18 million stroke cases.

Fatal exposure
The team also found that higher levels of air pollution were linked to higher risk of death from stroke.
Higher concentrations of nitrogen dioxide were linked to a 33% increased risk of death from stroke, sulphur dioxide, a 60 per cent increase, PM2.5, a 9 per cent increase and PM10, a 2% increase. "There is a strong association between air pollution and the occurrence of stroke as well as death from stroke within five days of exposure," said Ahmad Toubasi, study author. "This highlights the importance of global efforts to create policies that reduce air pollution. Doing so may reduce the number of strokes and their consequences," Toubasi added. **—IANS**

MIRRORLIGHTS

Electric-tongue, AI model to help predict bitterness of medicines

A team of UK researchers used an "electric tongue" and an artificial intelligence (AI) model to predict the bitterness of drugs.

Taste is key to making sure people regularly take their medications and is an important part of drug development. For example, taste has been identified as the biggest barrier in compliance for children taking medicine, but taste is also an issue for adults, especially adults taking long-term medication, such as for HIV.

The team from University College London (UCL) used an e-tongue -- a device made of sensors responding to taste -- to assign bitterness scores to medicines, and in turn estimate the aversiveness expected from the clinical dose planned.

The e-tongue measures how much the bitter molecules stick on a plastic sensor that acts like the human tongue, and then it compares it with a clear sample. The difference between the two measurements represents a theoretical bitterness level of a medicine.

Using an e-tongue means drugs can be tested more quickly and effectively compared to the alternative option of conducting a human trial. But the team collaborated with machine learning experts to speed up drug development further using an AI model.

Using data from the e-tongue, the AI model breaks down a drug into a series of molecular descriptors (e.g., number of atoms, total surface area of the molecule) that determine taste in order to predict levels of bitterness.

The model being developed will be an open access tool, meaning that pharmaceutical development around the world can benefit from the data on palatability of medicines, said the researchers.

"We run a machine learning algorithm to basically see what's the chemical structure, what's the molecular structure, what are the other chemical physical parameters that make it bitter, and try to see if there's a relationship," Dr Hend Abdelhakim from UCL Global Business School for Health was quoted as saying to the Telegraph.

Dr Abdelhakim explained that taste in medicines was especially a problem for children who have a "heightened sense of taste".

"It's a problem for longer term diseases, so for example, HIV," explained Dr Abdelhakim. "Antiretroviral medicines don't taste very well. So, if the patient has to take those pills every day for life, it's a much bigger problem, especially if they start them very, very young.

"Even if it's a wonder drug, if the patient doesn't take it, it won't work."

Treatment adherence is also particularly important with antibiotics as an interrupted course of treatment will contribute to antimicrobial resistance.

"With antibiotics, if the patient doesn't take it, yes, they won't get better. But also you're going to contribute to antimicrobial resistance," said Dr Abdelhakim. "It's actually a bigger problem for the rest of us."

— IANS

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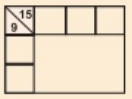
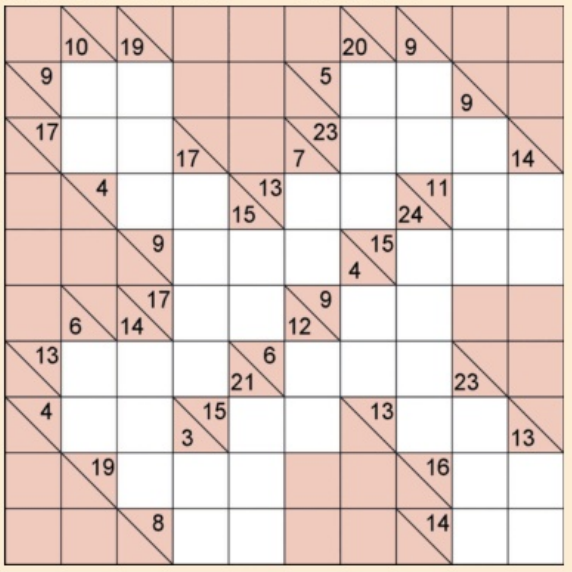
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

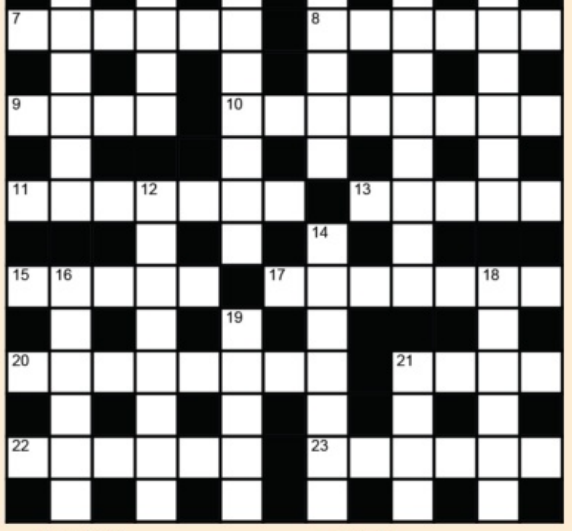


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Government office (6)
8 Herbs from plants of the onion family (6)
9 French cleric (4)
10 Little Corporal (8)
11 Produce again (7)
13 Furious (5)
15 Innuit dwelling (5)
17 Prime Minister Churchill? (7)
20 Issues of a magazine or a newspaper (8)
21 Raise (4)
22 Occurrences (6)
23 A rain cloud (6)

DOWN

1 Mixture or mess (6)
2 Pop in Paris (4)
3 Attendance (7)
4 Range (5)
5 Air India, Lufthansa, Indigo, etc (8)
6 Gobble up greedily (6)
12 Wearing or showing off (8)
14 Differ in opinion (7)
16 Karnataka Lake home to a bird sanctuary (6)
18 Non-transparent (6)
19 Lift (5)
21 Mountain goats (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: W EQUALS D

AV WCX'Y ZVV YTJXNZ FZ YTVQ FOV. AV ZVV YTJXNZ FZ AV FOV.

Linemaro

You're pretty high on my list of people with whom I would want to be stranded on an island

Mindchow

Most people have never learned that one of the main aims in life is to enjoy it

Joke of the day

Why are dogs afraid to sunbathe? They don't want to be hotdogs

Loop

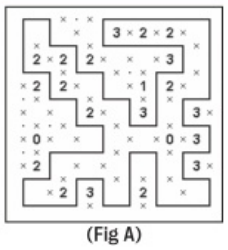
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

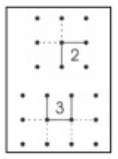
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

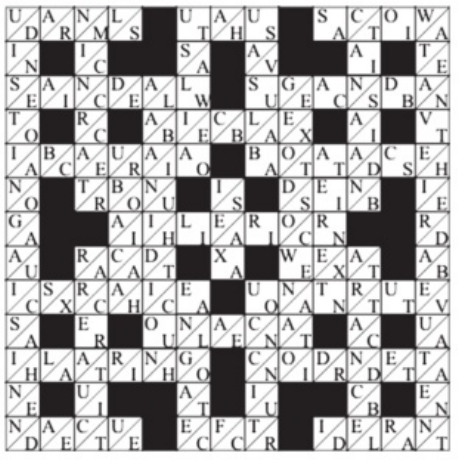


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9		Y		

ACROSS

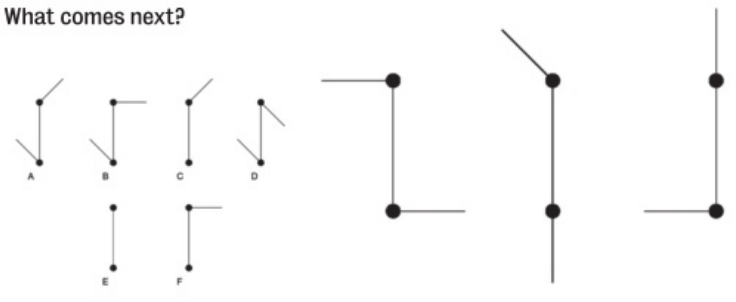
1 Paste; 6 Up nil; 7 De Pun; 8 Gamer; 9 Reply

DOWN

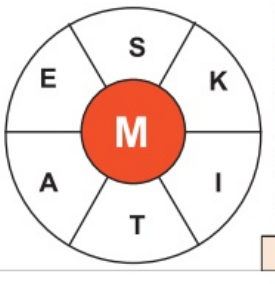
1 Lumps; 2 Up pal; 3 Peary; 4 Get in; 5 E nerd

Mensapuzzle

What comes next?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

16 Average; 18 Good; 20 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

8		4				7		6
	3		2		7		4	
	1		4		8		3	
		7		2		4		
			7		6			
		9		5		2		
	5		8		1		7	
	7		5		9		8	
1		8				9		3

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 13

3 4 6 8

Medium = 15

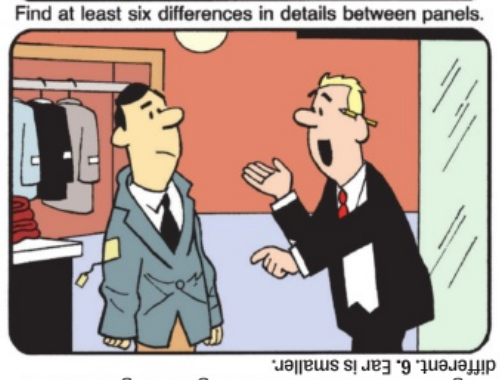
7 8 8 8

Hard = 3

5 7 9 6

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



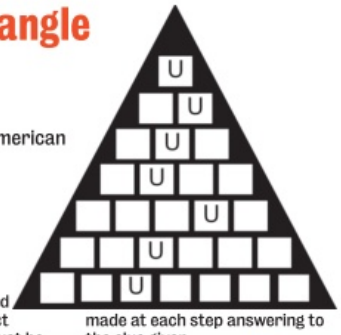
Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Tag is smaller. 3. Light is moved. 4. Jacket on hanger is longer. 5. Hair is different. 6. Ear is smaller.

Riddler

What is the next number in the series: 86,670; 8,670; 870; 90?

Alpha triangle

1 Uranium symbol
2 Et Brute
3 After Mon.
4 Guitar ancestor
5 Alaskan Native American
6 Talisman
7 Try to equal



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

WHAT'S THIG I HEAR ABOUT YOU STICKING PORCUPINE NEEDLES INTO PEOPLE, MEDICINE MAN?
7-7
IT'S A TREATMENT CALLED ACUPUNCTURE. BUT THE PORCUPINE NEEDLES DIDN'T WORK, SO I'M GIVING IT UP
THAT'S THE BEST NEWS I'VE HEARD IN A LONG TIME!

Bizarrotrip

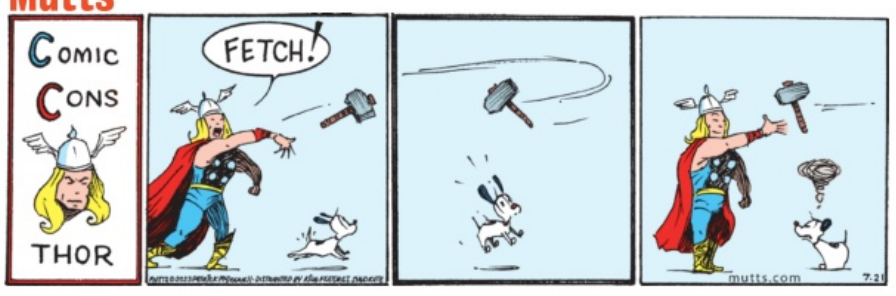
Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

DANA, I'M SORRY I GOT MAD AT YOU FOR SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T DO. I GOT ALL WORKED UP!
IT'S FINE. YOU WERE RIGHT, THOUGH. I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO JACOB ABOUT WHAT HE DID UNTIL YOU BROUGHT IT UP.
RIVALS AGAIN?
MAYBE FRIENDS TOO.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon; you may make new plans in terms of business, and your colleagues may be with you to implement your plans. You may recover your stuck money from your clients, which may boost liquidity in the business. After late evening, you may feel some depression. That may affect your sound sleep.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you have control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Decisions in legal matters may come in your favour. Your seniors may be happy because of your hard work; you may get new responsibilities in terms of promotion. Singles may find soul mates.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may be happy; you may plan to buy some creative stuff to improve your lifestyle. You may also spend on your friends and family members. You may plan to make investments in assets. Singles may have a good match; love birds may enjoy their important moments.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may be seeking peace of mind. But the moon's blessings may help you to focus on yourself. Investments in property and other assets are advised to be avoided. You may have some happy moments in your domestic life, but you should avoid arrogance and ego with your spouse. Disputes with the business partner are likely to be resolved.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may be polite with the people around you. Many problems may likely be resolved with the help of your way of speaking. There may be some control between savings and expenditure, which may boost your savings. You may spend on buying some creative stuff to renovate your house.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are advised to control your way of speaking in the family; your loose talking may affect your family harmony. You may spend your hard-earned money buying some worthless stuff to maintain your social status, but it is advised not to keep your cash loose in your pocket. You may face ear, tooth and throat problems in terms of health.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today is a good day for you. You have a good vitality and health. May enjoy your work, domestic life may also be good. Healthy partnerships will give you benefits in terms of business. Job seekers will find suitable jobs. Love birds shall avoid to discuss on self-respect issues.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you must control your way of speaking; you should be careful about hidden enemies and opponents. You may be a victim of conspiracy. It is advised to avoid making investments in risky assets. You must avoid lending money to anyone; it may not be easily recoverable. It is recommended to do meditation and yoga to come out from stress.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you will be a victim of negative thoughts. Impatient nature and arrogance will push you back to make difficult decisions. You will need the blessing of your elders, which will help you to grow into your work front. You should avoid making investments in zero assets. Love birds shall avoid discussing bad moments.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are in the winning position from your opponents and hidden enemies. Your money, which was stuck, may be recovered today. You may perform your best at work. Today is an important day for love birds and singles to make important decisions in terms of marriage.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is a good day for you. Last week's crunch is over now. You may initiate your postponed projects. You may be rewarded for your hard work, which may boost your confidence. There are some gains in your business which may boost your finances. Natives related to exports, imports, fashions, and dairy products may do better.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may feel dull; you may have health issues. Overworking your mind may make you tired. It may affect your domestic harmony. You may arrive late for a social or family get-together. Losses may be possible in the business; it is advised to refrain from investing in new business. Love birds shall avoid being involved in controversies.

KIDZONE

L Nagaveni, 14 Years, Indira Nagar Cambridge School

S Dhanush, 14 Years, Indira Nagar Cambridge School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
$2^{10}\sqrt{20^{-1}/(10\sqrt{5})}$
$=2^{-2}\sqrt{4\times\sqrt{5}/(\sqrt{5})}$
$=2^2$
$=4$

RIDDLER
12 (/10, +3)

STRIKE OUT

D	A	M	S	T	A	U	S	C	O	W				
I	I		A	V		A		E						
S	A	N	D	A	L		U	G	A	N	D	A		
T		C	B	I	B	L	E		A		T			
I	B	E	R	I	A		A	T	T	A	C	H		
N		R	O	N		S		D	E	N		E		
G		A	I	L	E	R	O	N		R				
U		A	C	T		X		W	E	T		B		
I	S	C	H	I	A		U	N	T	R	U	E		
S		E		O	L	E	N	T		A		A		
H	A	T	I	N	G		C	O	R	N	E	T		
N		R	O	N		S		D	E	N		E		
D	A	C	E		E	F	T		D	E	A	N		

FAST FIVE

S	P	A	T	E
L	U	P	I	N
M	A	R	G	E
U	P	E	N	D
P	L	Y	E	R

QUOTE UNCODE
We don't see things as they are. We see things as we are.

QUICK

J	P	T		S	A	D								
B	U	R	E	A	U		S	C	H	I	V	E	S	
E	M	R		R	O		R	A	N	D	O	M		
A	B	B	E		N	A	P	O	L	E	O	N		
	L		O		E		I			U				
R	E	I	S	S	U	E		A	N	G	R	Y		
		P		T		D		E						
I	G	L	O	O		W	I	N	S	T	O	N		
E	V	E	N	T	S		N	I	M	B	U	S		
A		I		I		E		A		G				
E	D	I	T	I	O	N	S		R	E	A	R		
	U		R		H		S			P				
I	G	L	O	O		W	I	N	S	T	O	N		
R	E	I	S	S	U	E		A	N	G	R	Y		
	L		O		E		I			U				
A	B	B	E		N	A	P	O	L	E	O	N		
7	1	2	4	6	8	5	3	9						
6	3	5	2	9	7	8	4	1						
5	6	7	9	2	3	4	1	8						
4	2	1	7	8	6	3	9	5						
3	8	9	1	5	4	2	6	7						
9	5	3	8	4	1	6	7	2						
2	7	6	5	3	9	1	8	4						
8	9	4	3	1	5	7	2	6						

MENSA PUZZLE
C: the top arm moves 45° clockwise at each stage and the bottom arm moves 90° clockwise

BULL'S EYE
emit, item, kismet, make, mask, mast, mate, meat, mist, MISTAKE, mite, same, seam, skim, smite, steam, stem, tame, team, time

SUDOKU

8	9	4	3	1	5	7	2	6
6	3	5	2	9	7	8	4	1
7	1	2	4	6	8	5	3	9
5	6	7	9	2	3	4	1	8
4	2	1	7	8	6	3	9	5
3	8	9	1	5	4	2	6	7
9	5	3	8	4	1	6	7	2
2	7	6	5	3	9	1	8	4
1	4	8	6	7	2	9	5	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
U, Tu, Tue, Lute, Aleut, Amulet, Emulate.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 3 − 4 + 8 = 13
Medium
8 + 7 + 8 − 8 = 15
Hard
6 − 5 − 7 + 9 = 3

LOOP

KAKURO

					1	7		
				9	2	8		
			4	9	3	6		
		9	2	6	1	5		
	4	9	3	1	2	9	1	5
	9	2	1	3	6	8	2	9
	8	4	2	9	7	1	9	6
				8	9	2	7	8
					5	1	3	4

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Tailormade, flexible options for customers

More and more banks try to create new set of services for their customers. Joining this list is the Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (Ujjivan SFB), a leading small finance bank, that recently announced the introduction of the Maxima Savings Account and Business Maxima Current Account for the premium customer segment.

The annual interest rate on the Maxima Savings Account is up to 7.5%, one of the highest in the industry, and customers can open the account with ₹1 lakh. Customers also have the flexibility to maintain ₹15 lakh or more in fixed deposits to meet the balance eligibility criteria of the Maxima Savings Account, an option not available with other standard savings accounts. Other exciting services offered by Maxima Savings Account include higher transaction limits, Free cheque & DD Issuances, Free transactions across all channels, and unlimited cash deposits and withdrawals at any branch. A Complimentary Health Prime Benefit is also offered with the Maxima Savings Account to applicable customers.

Business Maxima Current Account provides businesses and entrepreneurs with a comprehensive suite of services designed to meet their unique needs. It features convenient online banking, instant fund transfers, and cash management options. Notable features include the ability for businesses to define their own cash deposit limit, a higher daily ATM withdrawal limit of 5 lakhs per day, the provision of beyond banking services such as account services for merchants, and free installation and rental fees for POS services. In addition, business account holders will have access to specialised relationship managers to guide and serve their customised banking needs.

Commenting on the launch, Ittira Davis, MD & CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank, said,

"With our latest offerings, we strive to elevate the standard for banking excellence by providing a suite of premium benefits, personalised services, and exclusive deals."

Two rules which are applicable from October 1, 2023

Card issuers shall issue cards across more than one card network.

Further, card issuers shall provide an option to their eligible customers to choose any one among the multiple card networks. This option may be exercised by customers either at the time of issue or at any subsequent time.

Customers can select this option either at the time the card is issued or when it is renewed, according to the RBI. Therefore, while renewing their current debit or credit card, existing customers will also have the option of choosing their preferred card network provider in addition to new consumers.

RBI draft proposal on debit, credit card holders getting option to select network provider

The central bank has asked card issuers, i.e., banks and finance businesses, in a draft circular issued on July 5, 2023, to allow clients to have more than one card choice and to allow them to choose their preferred network supplier for their cards.

In most cases, you are not given the choice to select the card network when applying for a debit card or credit card. With any of the card networks, including Visa, Mastercard, RuPay, etc., your bank normally has an exclusive agreement. The banks therefore issue cards on their favoured network. There are now five card networks in India. American Express Banking Corporation, Diners Club International Ltd., MasterCard Asia/Pacific Pte. Ltd., National Payments Corporation of India – RuPay, and e) Visa Worldwide Limited.

Earn more
while we grow together.
7.5%^
interest rate p.a.
on Savings Account.
Redefine your privileges with the new
MAXIMA
•SAVINGS ACCOUNT•
Charge Free Banking and Allied Services*
Lifetime Free RuPay Select Debit Card*
Complimentary Health Services for the First Year*~
Exclusive Lifestyle and Entertainment Benefits*
78+ Lakh Customers#
686 Branches#
25 States & Union Territories#
20,000+ Employees#
Give a missed call on 799 666 666 3
^On an incremental balance above ₹5 lakh.
*Data as on August 30, 2023.
*T&C apply. ~Issued and serviced by insurance partner.
ujjivan SMALL FINANCE BANK
A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK